

Postcards From Wisconsin

Loyal School District

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Subject: Social Studies, Language Arts, Media, and Art	Technology/Equipment/Supplies Needed: Computer lab/Internet, online card catalog, WI Blue Book, trade books, outline maps, large US wall map, LCD projector, TV/VCR, card stock paper, art materials, stamps
Topic: Wisconsin location and symbols	
Grade Level: 4	Collaboration (w/media specialist, other staff): Social Studies teacher Language Arts teacher Media Specialist Art teacher
Lesson Length/No of Sessions: 3-4 weeks	

Task/Objectives:

1. Students will identify symbols of WI.
2. Students will be able to locate WI on the US Map.
3. Students will plot the global location of Loyal, WI.
4. Students will communicate with other students across the US.
5. Students will use a variety of resources (Digital Resources of WI, Internet, WI Blue Book online and in print, trade books, etc.)
6. Students will use imagination and creativity to develop a postcard.

Process (strategies & activities):

1. **Social Studies teacher** will discuss and help students locate Loyal, WI on a WI map. Name the states and waterways that border WI. See previewing activities PDF “A Place Called Wisconsin” from Digital Resources of WI.
2. View program “A Place Called Wisconsin” in Era 1, Geography 1(Digital Resources of WI) with the class using an LCD projector.
3. Introduce the concept of region with the physical regions map (p. 188 in Exploring Wisconsin Our Home manual).
4. **Media Specialist** will show students where reference, fiction, nonfiction print materials are in the library and how to use the on-line catalog to locate them.
5. **Social Studies teacher** will discuss why WI is special and identify WI symbols. See previewing activities PDF “Wisconsin is Special” in Era 10, Geography 11(Digital Resources of WI).
6. **Language Arts teacher** will teach note-taking skills.
7. Consult with the **Media Specialist** on where to find the WI Blue Book in print and online. Also, use the online library catalog to look up other books that might give information on WI symbols. Each group of two students will be responsible to look up several assigned symbols and report back to the whole group.
8. **Social Studies teacher** will show class the program “Wisconsin is Special” in Era 10, Geography 11 using an LCD projector.
9. Do “Wisconsin Symbols Match-Up and Wisconsin Symbols Word Search,” pp 166, 167 in Exploring Wisconsin Our Home manual.

10. **Language Arts teacher** will teach letter writing skills.
11. **Art teacher** will help students create a postcard using Wisconsin state symbols as artwork.
12. Class will exchange postcards with students from around the country about Wisconsin's land and symbols. Send to pre-selected group found from the Internet by the teacher. (**Language Arts teacher**)
13. **Social Studies teacher** will flag locations of postcards sent to our class on a large classroom map. Discuss the information that students around the country sent us about their states. How are our states similar? How are they different?

Resources:

Digital Resources of WI for Teaching WI studies, Internet site (<http://www.teachers.net>)
 WI Blue Book online and in print.

Assessment Rubric:

	Minimal	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Letter format	Letter form unrecognizable	Have 3 or more errors in capitalization, punctuation, or placements	Have 1-2 errors in capitalization, punctuation, or placements	No errors in capitalization, punctuation, or placements
Ideas	The letter seemed to be a collection of unrelated sentences. It is very difficult to figure out	Ideas were somewhat organized, but were not very clear	Ideas were expressed in a pretty clear manner, but the organization could have been better	Ideas were expressed in a clear and organized fashion. It is easy to figure out what letter was about
Grammar & Spelling	Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar and/or spelling	Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar and/or spelling	Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar and/or spelling	Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling
Content accuracy	The letter contains no accurate facts about WI	The letter contains 1-2 accurate facts about WI	The letter contains 3 accurate facts about WI	The letter contains at least 4 accurate facts about WI
Graphics accuracy	Most graphics/pictures are not correct	Graphics/pictures contain 3-4 errors	Graphics/pictures contain 1-2 errors	Graphics/pictures are correct color and design

Alignment to Content Standards:

Social Studies A.4.5 B.4.3 A.4.7 B.4.4 B.4.6 B.4.7	Language Arts A.4.3 B.4.1 C.4.3 F.4.1 B.4.2 B.4.3
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Alignment to Information and Technology Literacy Standards:

Media & Technology

A.4.4

A.4.5

Information & Inquiry

B.4.3

B.4.4

B.4.6

B.4.7

Independent Learning

The Learning Community

D.4.1

D.4.2